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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/698,254	10/30/2000	Koji Nakagiri	35.G2669	6234

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/698,254

Applicant(s)

NAKAGIRI ET AL.

Examiner

Le Nguyen

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment A, filed 10/23/03.
2. Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 are independent claims; claims 1-25 have been amended. This action is made Final.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 1, 9 and 17 of pages 2, 4 and 5-6 respectively cite second print or second printing. A description was not found and deemed necessary to clarify what is meant by "second print" and "second printing".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leiman et al. ("Leiman", US 6,469,796 B1) in view of HP DeskJet 880C ("HP").

As per claim 1, Leiman teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising:

spool means for temporarily storing data to be printed in an intermediate-code format with first print-setting information designated via a user interface by a printer driver, wherein the data to be printed is generated by an application program as well as setting information obtaining means for obtaining the first print-setting information from the data temporarily stored in the spool means in the intermediate-code format (col. 2, lines 7-8; *spool stores data wherein the data has settings information*); and,

display control means for controlling to display a user interface for editing the first print-setting information of the data temporarily stored in the spool means in the intermediate-code format as second print-setting information (fig. 9; col. 7, lines 33-39; *i.e. first print-setting information may be prioritized to be second print-setting information*) and setting edit means for relating the second print-setting information edited by the user interface to the data stored in the intermediate-code format and for temporarily storing them (figs. 9-29) and a print job generation means for generating a print job described in a page description language based on the data stored in the spool means in the intermediate-code format and the edited print setting (col. 4, lines 19-41; *e.g. postscript, a page description language*), wherein the display control means controls to restrict items of the first print-setting information.

Leiman does not explicitly disclose the display control means controls to restrict items of a first print-setting information and to display other items of the first print-setting information, and to display other items of the first print-setting information, which can be edited by the user

Art Unit: 2174

interface. HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising a print job generation means wherein a display control means controls to restrict items of a first print-setting information and to display other items of the first print-setting information, which can be edited by the user interface (fig. 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include HP's information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising a print job generation means (figs. 2-10; *print job generation and editing/management means*) wherein a display control means controls to restrict items of a first print-setting information and to display other items of the first print-setting information, which can be edited by the user interface to Leiman's information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus, comprising a print job generation means wherein a display control means controls to restrict items of a first print-setting information in order to provide users with a method of controlling editing and/or management access levels.

As per claim 2, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus comprising print job combining means for combining a plurality of print jobs temporarily stored in the spool means for the, converted to the intermediate-code format, into one job (Leiman: col. 2, lines 10-11), wherein the user interface can edit printing settings for the combined job (Leiman: col. 8, lines 1-4; *wherein a combined print job is basically a print job*).

As per claim 3, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus wherein the display control means controls such that a second user interface for editing layout settings of each combined job

Art Unit: 2174

is displayed, wherein the editing layout settings are print settings in which editing is restricted (Leiman: col. 7, lines 26-27).

As per claim 4, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus wherein the print settings for which editing is restricted by the display control means includes print settings related to printing quality (col. 4, lines 23-29; *settings related to printing quality such as color*).

As per claim 5, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus comprising restriction obtaining means for obtaining the restriction information of the print settings, wherein said display control means restricts a changed of printing settings which can be edited by the user interface, according to the restriction information (Leiman: col. 8, lines 22-26; *disclosed is a restriction/security system wherein it is inherent that there exists a means of obtaining the restriction/security information so that the restrictions can be set*).

As per claim 6, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus comprising an inherent printing-data generation means for generating printing data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus, according to the data temporarily stored in the spool means in the intermediate-code format, to complete a print job (Leiman: figs. 20-25).

As per claim 7, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus comprising first printing instruction generation means for converting the data temporarily stored in the spool means in the intermediate-code format into first printing instructions which can be interpreted by an operating

Art Unit: 2174

system description means for outputting second printing and printing-instruction allocation means for communicating a second printing instruction received from the application program through the operating system description means, to the spool means, and for communicating a second printing instruction received from the first printing instruction generation means through the operating system description means, to the printing data generation means (Leiman: col. 1, lines 61-65; *wherein a print job is sent from the client machine to the print server or from the source computer to the print server*).

Claims 9, 17 and 25 individually are similar in scope to claim 1 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 10 and 18 individually are similar in scope to claim 2 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 12 and 20 individually are similar in scope to claim 4 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 11 and 19 individually are similar in scope to claim 3 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 13 and 21 individually are similar in scope to claim 5 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 14 and 22 individually are similar in scope to claim 6 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 15 and 23 individually are similar in scope to claim 7 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 8, the modified Leiman and HP teaches an information processing apparatus for generating printing data to be transmitted to a printing apparatus wherein the first printing instructions are graphic device interface functions, the second printing instructions are device-driver-interface functions, and the printing data is written in a printer language (Leiman: col. 4, lines 19-41; *wherein the printer and its device driver-interface functions inherently take the graphic device interface functions, e.g. postscript, in order to convert it to a printer command that the printer can understand*).

Claims 16 and 24 individually are similar in scope to claim 8 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

Art Unit: 2174

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Inquires

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lê Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-7601. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-7238 [After Final Communication]

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

(703) 746-7240 [For status inquiries, Draft Communication]

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Lê Nguyen
Patent Examiner
January 11, 2004

Kristine Kincaid
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100